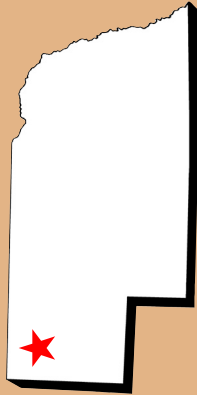




Fort Robinson STATE PARK

NEBRASKA
GAME & PARKS



FORT ROBINSON STATE PARK
PO Box 392
Crawford, NE 69339
Phone: (308) 665-2900

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Nebraska's largest and most historic state park, Fort Robinson was an active military post from 1874 to 1948. Crazy Horse, Walter Reed, Red Cloud, Arthur MacArthur, Dull Knife, General Crook, and Doc Middleton are but a few of the colorful characters who played significant parts in carving Fort Robinson's place in western lore.

Established as a post-Civil War Indian Agency protective post, Fort Robinson survived the Indian Wars to create a long heritage that is treasured today and will be for generations to come.

History comes alive here. Through the years, Fort Robinson was the site of the tragic Cheyenne Outbreak, the nation's largest quartermaster remount depot, a field artillery testing station, an Olympic equestrian training center, the last great gathering place of the Sioux Nation, a training center for dogs used by the military, and a World War II prisoner of war camp. In the 1950s, it served as a U.S. Department of Agriculture

research station before becoming the jewel of the Nebraska state park system in the heart of the rugged Pine Ridge near Crawford. The park's nearly 22,000 acres blend history with natural beauty and offer exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities for every member of the family.

FUN TIMES AHEAD

There are many ways to spend a day at the fort. First on the agenda should be a hayrack breakfast ride. Get acquainted with this unique park by enjoying a refreshing Pine Ridge morning on horseback or an open-air Jeep ride among the buttes. When the day warms up, head for the indoor Lindeken Pool, complete with outdoor wading pool and sundeck.

Travel the Old West way on the Fort Robinson stagecoach or with a hike through the pine-clad hills. For something extra special, there are early morning hayrack breakfasts and evening steak cookouts. There's fishing, too, for trout, bass and panfish in the ponds or Soldier Creek. Stroll into history with a visit to the

many historic buildings, as well as the Trailside Museum and the Fort Robinson Museum. Make a souvenir at the Activities Center, visit the Nature Center or backpack into the Soldier Creek Wilderness Area. Drive through the buffalo herd pasture or to many of the historic or recreational sites nearby: Toadstool Geologic Park and the Oglala National Grasslands, Agate Fossil Bed National Monument, Chadron State Park, and more. Golf buffs can enjoy the Pine Ridge scenery at Legends Butte Golf Course near Crawford.

Fort Robinson has acquired the Fort Niobrara herd of 219 true Texas longhorns. Please check information on how to see them. Come evening, take in the rodeo games or the Post Playhouse. And a must for every visitor . . . the Chuckwagon Buffalo Stew Cookout, with its sing-along around the campfire.

Park activities operate Memorial weekend through Labor Day, with a

limited fall schedule. For complete schedules, check the Post Dispatch newsletter, available at several locations around the park.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Lodging and modern camping are available from April 1 to November 30. Primitive camping is allowed year-round.

Lodging and meeting facilities include: The Lodge's double or twin bedrooms; Cabins and Adobes that sleep 4 to 12 people; brick officers' quarters that sleep 14 to 20 people; Comanche Hall which handles 60 people for sleeping, cooking and dining and has a complete kitchen; and the Buffalo Barracks Squad Room, which has 20 cots in a large room, a full kitchen and is a great place for youth groups and men or women's retreats. Linens are furnished for all accommodations, and some utensils, dishes and silverware are also provided, except in lodge rooms. You may

also reserve a picnic shelter for your group or family reunion. Group and meeting facilities include Dodd Hall, Buffalo Soldier Barracks and the Mare Barn Annex. Dodd Hall and the Buffalo Soldier Barracks can seat up to 200 people, and the Mare Barn Annex seats up to 120 people.

Cabin reservations are accepted for two or more nights up to a year in advance of arrival date and can be made online, by phone or in person during regular park office hours. A two-night minimum stay is required; unless it is a one-night stay positioned between two prior reservations or a walk in registration for that day's business. Lodge room reservations are accepted for one or more nights.

Half of the modern campsites at the Soldier Creek and Red Cloud campgrounds can be reserved before arrival; the remainder are available on a first come, first serve basis. Reservations may be made up to a year in advance of arrival date and can be made online, by phone or in person.

Summer activities are plentiful, and family favorites include stagecoach (bottom left), horseback trail rides (above), and cool off in the Lindeken pool (right). Enjoy live productions at the Post Playhouse in air-conditioned comfort (left). Pine Ridge beauty dominates the park landscapes (front cover). Bison (back cover) can be seen on Smiley Canyon Scenic Drive.



FOOD SERVICE

Fort Robinson Inn serves breakfast, lunch and dinner daily during the summer season. The park can also cater group functions from mid-April to mid-November. Snacks are available at the Sutler's Store in the Activities Center.

RESERVATIONS

To make reservations online, go to OutdoorNebraska.org. Phone reservations can be made through the Nebraska State Park call center at (402) 471-1414. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Central time M-F. Or call Fort Robinson at (308) 665-2900.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A current Nebraska park entry permit is required for all vehicles entering the park. Permits are available at the office, as are hunting and fishing permits, which can also be obtained online.

For more information on Fort Robinson or other Nebraska state park areas, visit the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's web site at OutdoorNebraska.org. You can buy a park entry, fishing or hunting permit online as well. For other park information, call (800) 826-PARK (7275) and leave your name, complete address and your request.

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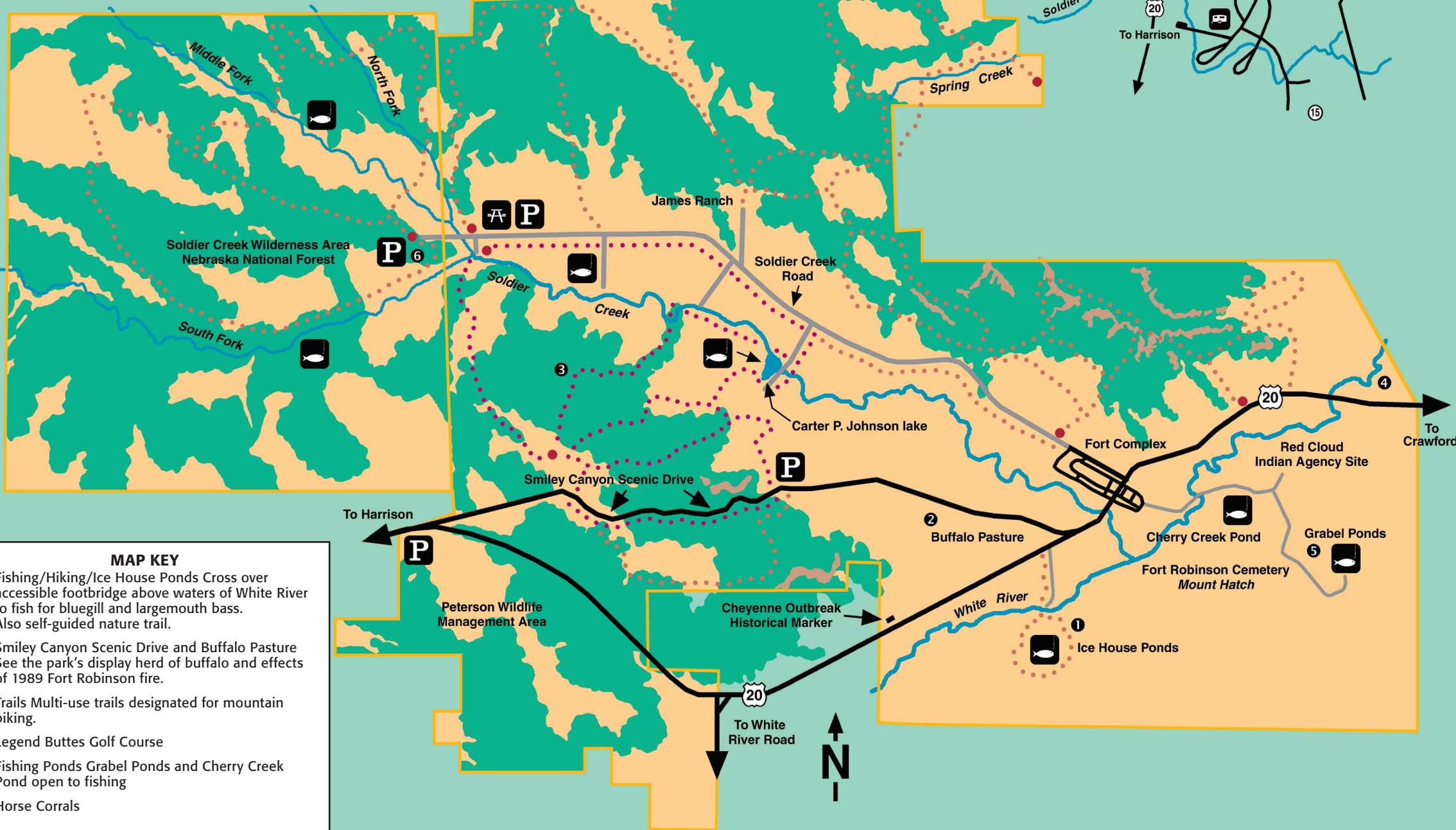
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Fort Robinson State Park



- | | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fishing | Recreational Vehicle Camping | Hiking/Biking/Horse Trails |
| Parking | Tent Camping | Paved Roads |
| Swimming Pool | Trail Heads | Unimproved Roads |
| Picnic Area | Hiking/Horse Trails | Buttes |



MAP KEY

- 1 Fishing/Hiking/Ice House Ponds Cross over accessible footbridge above waters of White River to fish for bluegill and largemouth bass. Also self-guided nature trail.
- 2 Smiley Canyon Scenic Drive and Buffalo Pasture See the park's display herd of buffalo and effects of 1989 Fort Robinson fire.
- 3 Trails Multi-use trails designated for mountain biking.
- 4 Legend Buttes Golf Course
- 5 Fishing Ponds Grabel Ponds and Cherry Creek Pond open to fishing
- 6 Horse Corrals

Enlarged view of Fort Complex

FORT COMPLEX KEY

- 1 Fort Robinson Inn & Lodge, Park Office & Visitor Information Center (1909 Enlisted Men's Barracks)
- 2 Fort Robinson Museum (1905 Post HQ)
- 3 Comanche Hall (1909 Bachelor Officers' Quarters) Group lodging facility
- 4 Accommodations Lodging facilities include (1874, 1887 and 1909 Officers' Quarters) and lodge rooms (1909 Enlisted Men's Barracks).
- 5 Mare Barns Complex and Rodeo Arena
- 6 Nurses Quarters
- 7 Tennis Court
- 8 Lindeken Swimming Pool complex
- 9 Riding Stables Departure point for horseback, stagecoach & reservations/tickets at Information Center
- 10 Activities Center/Sutler's Store Departure point for Jeep ride, Tour Train and hayrack rides. Reservations and tickets at Information Center. Craft Center, bike rentals, Nature Center and snack foods inside.
- 11 Trailside Museum University of Nebraska State Museum interprets area geology and natural history
- 12 Post Playhouse A professional summer stock theater producing four musicals in rotation throughout the summer visit our website at www.postplayhouse.com or call 308-665-1976.
- 13 Campgrounds Facilities include shower house, electrical hookups, dump station, grills, picnic tables and water hydrants situated on the banks of Soldier Creek. Tent camping area is also available.
- 14 Picnic Grounds and Shelter
- 15 Original Fort Cemetery Soldiers buried here were moved to Fort McPherson National Cemetery when post was abandoned.
- 16 Buffalo Soldier Barracks
- 17 Red Cloud Campground

EXHIBIT BUILDINGS

The Nebraska State Historical Society manages these structures, which are either reconstruction, historic markers or restoration projects. Check at Fort Robinson Museum for more information.

- A 1887 Adobe Officers' Quarters As the fort expanded during the 1880s to become a regimental cavalry headquarters, these adobes were built facing the new parade ground established northwest of the original. Restorations depict lifestyle of officers of the period.
- B 1904 Harness Repair & 1906 Blacksmith shops The Harness Repair Shop, originally a blacksmith shop, was used by saddlers to make and repair harness, saddles, boots and other leather items. During WWII, leather boots for K-9 Dog Corps were made there. Cavalry horses, mules and later Remount Depot horses were shod at the Blacksmith Shop.
- C 1908 Veterinary Hospital Built during the last big expansion at the fort, it served the 8th (1907-10) and 12th (1910-16) Cavalry regiments. Fort Robinson was designated as one of three Quartermaster Remount depots in 1919 and eventually became the world's largest such station, operating through World War II.
- D Guardhouse & Adjutant's Office Built in 1875, these two buildings were reconstructed from written records after archeological excavation. In 1877, Sioux warrior Crazy Horse died in the Adjutant's Office after being mortally wounded at the Guardhouse.
- E Red Cloud Indian Agency & POW Camp Both located 1 1/2 miles from the fort complex, the Red Cloud Agency was established in 1873 to issue government goods to some 13,000 Indians camped around the agency. The Sioux Expedition, consisting of 949 soldiers, arrived here in March 1874 to protect the agency from hostile Indians. In March 1943, the POW Camp was added to house German World War II prisoners. Most of them worked at the fort for a wage set by the Geneva Convention.
- F Cheyenne Outbreak Barracks One of the most tragic events in the history of the fort occurred here. In the bitter cold on January 9, 1879, a band of Northern Cheyenne, in fear of being sent back to Indian Territory in Oklahoma tried to escape the log barracks. During their daring escape, Cheyenne were killed between the parade ground and the river. Known as the Cheyenne Outbreak, this event was one of the last battles of the Indian War.